

Case No.: INJEC-016C
Patent Appln. 09/144,398



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(NE)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Thomas C. Kuracina, et al.

Serial No.: 09/144,398

Filed: August 31, 1998

For: NEEDLE TIP GUARD FOR
HYPO-DERMIC NEEDLES

Art Unit: 3763

Examiner: John D. Yasko

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A M E N D M E N T

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON D C 20231

Dear Sir/Madam:

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed **December 15, 1999**, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

- (NE) 1. (Amended) A needle protective device comprising:
- (a) a needle guard slidably mounted on a needle having a proximal end and a sharpened distal end, said needle further having at least one recessed change in profile formed upon the length thereof, said guard having a proximal end and a distal end, said guard containing a movable needle trap that is transitional between a first retracted configuration wherein said trap is oriented toward said proximal end of said needle, and a second operative